

ASSEMBLY BILL

No. 2639

Introduced by Assembly Member Lowenthal

February 21, 2014

An act to amend Section 13978.8 of the Government Code, relating to transportation.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 2639, as introduced, Lowenthal. State freight plan.

Existing law requires the Transportation Agency to prepare a state freight plan with specified elements to govern the immediate and long-range planning activities and capital investments of the state with respect to the movement of freight. Existing law requires the agency to establish a freight advisory committee with various responsibilities in that regard and requires that the initial state freight plan be submitted to the Legislature, the Governor, and certain state agencies by December 31, 2014, and updated every 5 years thereafter.

This bill would make nonsubstantive changes to these provisions.

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: no.
State-mandated local program: no.

The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

1 SECTION 1. Section 13978.8 of the Government Code is
2 amended to read:
3 13978.8. (a) The Transportation Agency shall prepare a state
4 freight plan. The state freight plan shall comply with the relevant
5 provisions of the federal Moving Ahead for Progress in the 21st
6 Century Act (MAP-21), Public Law 112-141. The agency shall

1 develop a state freight plan that provides a comprehensive plan to
2 govern the immediate and long-range planning activities and capital
3 investments of the state with respect to the movement of freight.

4 (b) (1) The agency shall establish a freight advisory committee
5 consisting of a representative cross section of public and private
6 sector freight stakeholders, including representatives of ports,
7 shippers, carriers, freight-related associations, the freight industry
8 workforce, the California Transportation Commission, the
9 Department of Transportation, the Public Utilities Commission,
10 the State Lands Commission, the State Air Resources Board,
11 regional and local governments, and environmental, safety, and
12 community organizations.

13 (2) The freight advisory committee shall do all of the following:

14 (A) Advise the agency on freight-related priorities, issues,
15 projects, and funding needs.

16 (B) Serve as a forum for *the* discussion ~~for~~ of state transportation
17 decisions affecting freight mobility.

18 (C) Communicate and coordinate regional priorities with other
19 organizations.

20 (D) Promote the sharing of information between the private and
21 public sectors on freight issues.

22 (E) Participate in the development of the state freight plan.

23 (c) The state freight plan shall include, at a minimum, all of the
24 following:

25 (1) An identification of significant freight system trends, needs,
26 and issues.

27 (2) A description of the freight policies, strategies, and
28 performance measures that will guide freight-related transportation
29 investment decisions.

30 (3) A description of how the state freight plan will improve the
31 ability of California to meet the national freight goals established
32 under Section 167 of Title 23 of the United States Code.

33 (4) Evidence of consideration of innovative technologies and
34 operational strategies, including intelligent transportation systems,
35 that improve the safety and efficiency of freight movement.

36 (5) In the case of routes on which travel by heavy vehicles,
37 including mining, agricultural, energy cargo or equipment, and
38 timber vehicles, is projected to substantially deteriorate the
39 condition of roadways, a description of improvements that may
40 be required to reduce or impede the deterioration.

1 (6) An inventory of facilities with freight mobility issues, such
2 as truck bottlenecks within California, and a description of the
3 strategies California is employing to address those freight mobility
4 issues.

5 (d) Notwithstanding Section 10231.5, the state freight plan shall
6 be submitted to the Legislature, the Governor, the California
7 Transportation Commission, the Public Utilities Commission, and
8 the State Air Resources Board on or before December 31, 2014,
9 and every five years thereafter. The state freight plan shall be
10 submitted pursuant to Section 9795.

11 (e) The state freight plan required by this section may be
12 developed separately from, or incorporated into, the statewide
13 strategic long-range transportation plan required by Section 135
14 of Title 23 of the United States Code.

15 (f) The freight element of the state freight plan may be
16 developed separately from, or incorporated into, the state rail plan
17 prepared by the Department of Transportation pursuant to Section
18 14036.